

July 17, 1962

Dr. Hugo Boyko  
World Academy of Art and Science  
1 Ruppin Street  
Rehovot, Israel

Dear Dr. Boyko:

May I acknowledge your kind letter of June 15.

Before reacting to your invitation to join the Academy, I would like to learn more about the purposes of establishing such an organization, which I may hope to do from some of my friends who are already members; for example, Dr. Muller and Dr. Urey. I am also waiting to read the copy of "Science and the Future of Mankind" which I have recently ordered from my bookseller. My main concern is that such an Academy might turn into another arena for political conflict rather than scientific enlightenment; I am also puzzled about the duplication between the new Academy and the ongoing Pugwash Conferences and conferences on sciences and world affairs in their continuing program.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

\* Done (and assimilated for Ebra talks  
which is partly a reaction to Muller's  
paper there)!

Boyko